

PATENT CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A roller/foot device (1), characterised in that it comprises
- a cylindrical outer sleeve (10) with one end completely or partly closed (13) by an end surface and one open (17) end, where the outer sleeve's inner wall(s) comprise first elongated ribs (11), which ribs extend in the outer sleeve's longitudinal direction with inclined end portions (15) with a step (16) and which ribs are arranged in parallel with grooves between round the circumference of the sleeve (10),
 - a guide sleeve (20) arranged inside the outer sleeve (10) where the guide sleeve's outer wall comprises second ribs (21) where the width of each of the second ribs is equal to or less than the grooves between the first ribs (11) and which second ribs have end portions comprising at least one inclined surface (22,23) and grooves (24) between the ribs (21) which grooves (24) similarly have end portions with at least one inclined surface (26,27),
 - a locking sleeve (30) arranged inside the outer sleeve (10) further out towards the open end of the outer sleeve than the guide sleeve (20), where the outside of the locking sleeve comprises third ribs (31) with having the same width and being arranged at the same distance apart as the second ribs (21) in the guide sleeve (20), and which locking sleeve have inclined end portions (32) at an angle which is adapted to the first ribs' inclined end portions (15) and which inclined end portions (32) abut against the second ribs' end portions (22),
 - a spring device where one end abuts against the outer sleeve's closed end (13) and the other end abuts against one end portion of the guide sleeve ~~or the locking sleeve~~,
 - a roller element (41) which is rotatably mounted abutting against the locking sleeve's (20) end portion located at the extreme end of the outer sleeve (10),
with the result that
 - when the roller element (41) is subjected to a force that acts inwardly in the outer sleeve (10), the spring device will exert a counterforce which presses the roller element (41) towards the outer sleeve's open end,
 - when the force that acts inwardly in the outer sleeve is sufficiently great (greater than the force from the spring device),
 - the second ribs (21) on the guide sleeve will slide in the longitudinal direction in the grooves on the outer sleeve (10),
 - the end portions (32) of the third ribs will slide towards the end portions (15) of the

first ribs, thus generating a movement of the locking sleeve (30) in the circumferential direction, the movement in the circumferential direction being stopped by the third ribs (31) abutting against the steps (16) on the first ribs' end surfaces (15) in a position where the roller element (41) is in its first position, or against the first ribs' (11) side walls in a second position where the roller element (41) is in its second position, depending on the roller element's initial position before the roller element was subjected to a force,

- when the force acting inwardly in the outer sleeve (10) is less than the force from the spring device, the roller element is pressed into its an outer, third position and
- when the roller element (41) is subjected to repeated forces in the inward direction, the roller element will assume a sequence of positions in the outer sleeve's longitudinal direction, where the roller element in the first position protrudes from the outer sleeve and in the second position is completely inside the outer sleeve.

2. (original) A roller device according to claim 1, characterised in that it further comprises several ball bearings and a locking ring and that

- the locking sleeve is provided with a cup-shaped recess in the end facing out towards the outer sleeve's open end, the recess being adapted to receive the ball bearings and the roller element, and

- the locking ring is designed to be able to be clamped into the locking sleeve so that the ball bearings and the roller element are held against the recess in the locking sleeve.

3. (currently amended) A roller device according to claim 1, characterised in that it further comprises a bearing ring which is adapted to fit between the locking ring and the ball bearings.

4. (currently amended) A roller device according to claim 3, characterised in that the bearing ring comprises at least one spring mechanism ~~such as, e.g. flexible teeth~~.

5. (original) A roller device according to claim 1, characterised in that the end portions of the second ribs on the guide sleeve comprise two inclined surfaces.

6. (original) A roller device according to claim 1,
characterised in that the roller element is made of a soft/flexible material surrounded
by a harder material.

5 7. (original) A roller device according to claim 1,
characterised in that the outer sleeve also comprises tension devices for attachment to
a piece of furniture.

8. (currently amended) A roller device according to claim 1,
characterised in that a protective pad is provided on the edge of the outer sleeve's
open end ~~outer edge~~.

10 9. (original) A roller device according to claim 8,
characterised in that the pad is doughnut-shaped with an outer diameter equal to or
larger than the outer sleeve's outer diameter.